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Hall, James P. *Constitutional Law*. Pp. xiv, 408. Chicago: De Bower-Chapline Company, 1910.

The present reviewer, in a former issue of the *ANNALS*, discussed at some length "American Law and Procedure," a work in fourteen volumes. This work was published by LaSalle Extension University, Chicago. Much of what was said, generally, in that review is particularly applicable to Professor Hall's book on Constitutional Law, which formed one of the volumes of "American Law and Procedure." It is now issued separately, and something more may well be added to the scant sentence of special praise given it in the former review.

The United States Constitution with fifteen amendments thereto are printed as one of the Appendices to Professor Hall's book. They occupy only seventeen pages, yet for a century this brief document has raised countless questions in our courts. The recurrence of such questions is due to no inherent obscurity in the Constitution itself, but rather to its importance as the framework of the national government and to the fact that the country is rapidly developing and almost as rapidly changing. The present generation is witnessing an accelerated growth and change throughout the nation, with the result that constitutional questions, instead of being all settled, are multiplying apace.

All this justifies the production of new works on Constitutional Law. When such works were originally written, during the first half of the nineteenth century, they could be made exhaustive within the limits of a single volume, so few decisions, comparatively, had then been handed down on points of Constitutional Law. To-day, a work making any pretensions to exhaust this subject would occupy several volumes at the least. Professor Hall has made no pretensions, however, to cover the entire field. His work is intended, perhaps, more for the student than for the practicing lawyer. But while somewhat elementary, it shows the author's mastery of his subject.

Moreover, it is practical. Many of the older works on Constitutional Law devoted too much space to the discussion of issues now happily dead, as, for instance, the slave question. Professor Hall has a nice sense of proportion that enables him to give the various topics which he treats the amount of space respectively due them. He cites a large number of recent cases without, however, losing his perspective and ignoring the important earlier decisions.

In this connection regret may be expressed that the work was written prior to the handing down of the Supreme Court's opinion in the *Standard Oil* case and in other cases lately decided. With Chief Justice White at the head of the Supreme Court, we may expect another era of noteworthy constitutional utterances such as that which distinguished the same court in Marshall's time. Again, there have been some recent statutory changes which would be reflected in Professor Hall's book were he to write it to-day.

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